absolutely necessary for operational reasons, fuel monitoring and tankering, control on aircraft maintenance, reduction in publicity and sales promotional expenditure, review of uneconomic flights, inventory management, outsourcing of services to the extent feasible etc.

SC/ST employees sent abroad for training

2440. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether approach course at Civil Aviation Training College, Allahabad is an eligibility for Senior Supdt. (Aerodrome) as Assistant Manager, if so, the rules and practices thereunder;

(b) the number of Senior Supdt. (Aerodrome) sent for training since 1999 and the number of them belonging to SC/ST; and

(c) whether the letter dated 2nd April, 1993 of NAA for specialized technical training abroad for SC/ST officers has been implemented; if so, the number of such officers sent for training abroad so far?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the Recruitment and Promotion rules Senior Superintendent (Aerodrome) who have completed five years regular services and successfully undergone Integrated ADC Approach Control Course are eligible for promotion as Assistant Manager (Air Traffic Control).

(b) Since, 1999, 81 Senior Superintendent (Aerodrome) including 8 Scheduled Caste and 13 Scheduled Tribe officers were sent for training.

(c) After issue of letter dated 2nd April, 1993, 24 officers belonging to Scheduled Caste and 2 officers belonging to Scheduled Tribe have been sent abroad for training.

Import of poor quality chocolates

2441. DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that consequent on removal of quantitative restrictions on a number of objects, it is found that imported goods are st.'e, spoilt and chocolates taste is stinking and have fungus;

(b) whether none of the imported packs of chocolates carry the names and addresses of the manufacturers and its manufacturing dates; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Even though no specific complaints about import of stale chocolates are available in the records, imports into India are subject to compliance of the provisions of all laws applicable to similar products made in the country. Thus, import of food products is subject to, *inter-alia*, all the provisions of Prevention of Food Adulteration Act (PFA), 1954. The imported consignments of food products not meeting PFA standards would be appropriately dealt with by the authorities through measures including, but not limited to, denial of entry at the port of disembarkment and/or reshipment. Further, the Government have issued a Notification restricting import of food products having less than 60% of its valid shelf life at the time of importation. Under rule 32 of the PFA rules, 1955 every package of food including imported food shall carry a label indicating the name and complete address of the manufacturer or importer or vendor or packer and the month and the year in which the commodity is manufactured or packed, in addition to other labelling requirements.

New markets for processed cashewnuts

2442. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of average price obtained for one kilo of cashewnuts during 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and the 1st quarter of 2001; and

(b) whether Government have made any efforts to find new markets for processed cashewnuts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The average export price (Rs./ kilo) obtained for Indian cashewnuts since 1998-99 is as given below:—

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002(1st quarter)
211.49	265.13	230.04	209.51